

In the Specification:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 12, line 5 as follows:

With reference to Fig. 10 10A-and-10B, a the main shield portion 340 (formed further from the write pole) is formed above the shield pedestal 342 320, having a lateral width parallel with the ABS surface that is much wider than the pedestal 342 320, and having a short throat height dimension (perpendicular to the ABS surface). An ion milling process is then performed using the main shield 340 portion as a mask to define the throat height of the shield pedestal 342 320, thereby self aligning the shield pedestal with the main shield portion in the track throat height direction. The detection of write gap material in the ion mill atmosphere indicates that ion milling should be terminated.

On page 20, please amend the Abstract as follows:

A perpendicular magnetic write head having a notched, self aligned trailing shield for canting a magnetic field emitted therefrom. The invention provides a notched trailing shield that minimizes stray field formation while improving field gradient. The write head having a notched trailing shield is extremely manufacturable, being self aligned with the write pole of the perpendicular write head and using presently existing manufacturing methods.